

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/US2004/033007

Box II Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)

This International Search Report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. Claims Nos.: 1–45, 75–129, 137–145
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:
Rule 39.1(iv) PCT – Method for treatment of the human or animal body by surgery
2. Claims Nos.:
because they relate to parts of the International Application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful International Search can be carried out, specifically:
3. Claims Nos.:
because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

Box III Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 3 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:

1. As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers all searchable claims.
2. As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.
3. As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:
4. No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this International Search Report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

Remark on Protest

The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.

No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No

PCT/US2004/033007

Information on patent family members

Patent document cited in search report	Publication date	Patent family member(s)		Publication date
US 2003040808	A1 27-02-2003	US 2003040804 A1 EP 1492477 A1 EP 1492478 A1 WO 03086246 A1 WO 03086247 A1 US 2004117031 A1 US 2004158331 A1 US 2004138761 A1 US 2004172141 A1 EP 1420730 A2 WO 03017882 A2 US 2003199989 A1 US 2003199990 A1 US 2003199991 A1 US 2004172142 A1 US 2005004681 A1		27-02-2003 05-01-2005 05-01-2005 23-10-2003 23-10-2003 17-06-2004 12-08-2004 15-07-2004 02-09-2004 26-05-2004 06-03-2003 23-10-2003 23-10-2003 23-10-2003 02-09-2004 06-01-2005
US 5868141	A 09-02-1999	NONE		